

REMARKS

Claims remaining in the present application are Claims 1, 3 - 6, 10 - 13, 15 - 18, 22 - 25, and 28 - 31. Claims 2, 7 - 9, 14, 19 - 21, 26 - 27, and 32 have been canceled. Claims 1, 13, and 25 have been amended. No new matter has been added as a result of this amendment.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner indicated that Claims 9 - 12, 21 - 24, and 30 - 32 contained allowable subject matter, and were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent Claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 9 in addition to the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims, and is now believed allowable. Claims 3 - 6, 10 - 12, and 30 depend from independent Claim 1, and are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on allowable base Claim 1.

Independent Claim 13 has been rewritten to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 21 in addition to the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims, and is now believed allowable. Claims 15 - 18, 22 - 24, and

31 depend from independent Claim 13, and are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on allowable base Claim 13.

Independent Claim 25 has been rewritten to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 32 in addition to the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims, and is now believed allowable. Claims 28 - 29 depend from independent Claim 25 and are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on allowable base Claim 25.

REJECTIONS

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of record have been overcome by the amendment of independent claims 1, 13, and 25 to contain subject matter that the Examiner indicated as allowable.

As described above, independent Claims 1, 13, and 25 have been rewritten to incorporate allowable subject matter in addition to the limitations of the base claims and intervening claims, and are now believed allowable.

Claims 3 - 6, 10 - 12, and 30 depend from independent Claim 1, and are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on allowable base Claim 1.

Claims 15 - 18, 22 - 24, and 31 depend from independent Claim 13, and are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on allowable base Claim 13.

Claims 28 - 29 depend from independent Claim 25 and are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on allowable base Claim 25.

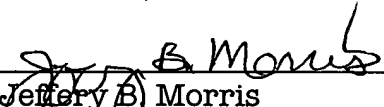
Rejections to Claims 2, 7 - 9, 14, 19 - 21, 26 - 27, and 32 are moot, as these claims have been canceled.

CONCLUSION

Based on the amendments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 3 - 6, 10 - 13, 15 - 18, 22 - 25, and 28 - 31 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, allowance of Claims 1, 3 - 6, 10 - 13, 15 - 18, 22 - 25, and 28 - 31 is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner have a question regarding the instant amendment and response, the Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP

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Jeffery B. Morris
Registration No. 55,466

Address: WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP
Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, California 95113
Telephone: (408) 938-9060 Voice
(408) 938-9069 Facsimile